

REVIVALS OF RELIGION.

Extract from Dr. Cogswell's History of Revivals of Religion in the "Harbinger of the Millennium."

Revivals of religion to a greater or less extent have at times prevailed ever since the church has existed. Many signal instances of them are recorded in the Old and New Testaments. God at times remarkably displayed his power and grace in building up Zion. This was the case in the days of David and Solomon, Asa and Hezekiah, Josiah and Ezra. In the time of John, the harbinger of Christ, the Spirit was poured out in copious effusions. On the day of Pentecost, by the preaching of the Apostles, attended by the special influences of the Holy Ghost, three thousand were added to the church. Multitudes were converted in Samaria. There were various seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord in the first centuries of the Christian church. The Gospel had free course and was glorified. This also was the case in succeeding ages. In the sixteenth century, there were unusual effusions of the Spirit, which attended the labors of the Reformers in Britain, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, and Holland. A revival took place in France, about 1550, at the time of those distinguished divines, Farel and Vivet. There was an extraordinary revival of religion, in 1625, in Scotland. Such was the revival, in 1628, in Ireland. In the time of the plague in London, in 1665, multitudes were brought to renounce their enmity to the cross and bow to the sceptre of Jesus. In 1732, and 1733, God was pleased to pour out his Spirit on the people of Salzburg in Germany. More than twenty thousand were converted from Popish darkness to the pure gospel of Christ, and very many hopefully became the subjects of the grace of God. About this time there were extensive revivals in England, Wales, Scotland, and the British Provinces in North America. There were also great revivals of religion in the United States, more especially in New England, in the days of Whitfield, the Tennents, Edwards, Brainerd, Wheelock and Bellamy. During this period, twenty-five thousand persons were probably added to the churches. This revival of religion is attested as being a glorious work of the Spirit of God, by one hundred and seven ministers of the gospel, most of whom were assembled at Boston, in 1743. About the commencement of the nineteenth century, revivals of religion prevailed in the Carolinas, Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and New England, especially Connecticut. More than one hundred thousand persons were visited with the effusions of the Holy Ghost. For the last twenty years, there has been a series of revivals throughout the land. During the years 1831 and 1832, probably as many as one hundred thousand souls were converted to Christ. Between three hundred and fifty, and four hundred young men, in our public institutions of learning, were hopefully brought to repose in the Saviour's arms. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. It is not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts. The glorious victories of our King should call forth the devout aspirations of our souls. These should be declared abroad as memorials of divine grace. The triumphs of praise should sound when the King of Zion cometh in triumph having salvation. It is grace—grace. To God be all the glory.

See "Fleming's Fulfilling of the Scriptures;" "Gillies' Historical Collections;" "Calamy's Life of Baxter;" "Prinsep's Christian History;" "Dwight's Life of Brainerd;" and "President Edwards's Narrative of Revivals."

From the Albany Argus.

TEMPERANCE CAUSE IN IRELAND.

Ballinacorney, March 21, 1840.

Messrs. Editors.—All your readers are doubtless informed of the astonishing reformation now in progress, among all classes, in Ireland, chiefly effected, under Providence, by the labors of Father Matthew and the Catholic Clergy. The Dublin Weekly Register of February 1st states, "that the number already enrolled on the Total Abstinence pledge amounts to 600,000." Later statistics give the number as one million, and not an instance yet known of backsliding.

The Limerick Chronicle says, "that the deposits in the Savings Bank have nearly quadrupled in three months." In Cork not a drunken person was seen in a fortnight. The Liverpool Mercury states: That already, "the distillers in Ireland, in consequence of the overstock of whiskey, (caused by the temperate habits of the Irish people,) are now seeking a mart in the West Indian and Portuguese markets."

At the Waterford quarter sessions, the chief magistrate congratulated the grand jury upon the absence of crime in the city, since the visit of the Rev. Father Matthew.

At Carlebury, 15,000 persons took the pledge in two days. Wherever the subject is presented, the people are ready to receive it, and it is confidently anticipated that the whole population of Ireland will speedily be brought under the healthful influence of the principles of entire abstinence from all that can intoxicate.

It is supposed that a great proportion of those who have listened to the powerful arguments of Father Matthew and his associates, though they may not have signed the pledge, practise upon its principles. The Irish and English papers which have reached us by the recent arrivals, are filled with the history of this wonderful moral reformation, and with speculations as to the influence it is to have on the future prospects of Ireland. Unless England adopts and follows out the same principle, Ireland, in my opinion will become the most powerful of the two countries.

The London Times sees rebellion in the present temperance reform in Ireland. We announce it (says the editor) "as the first movement of direct rebellion." The Irish press, admitting the charge says, "Yes, there is to be a rebellion in Ireland; nay it has already commenced; but it is a rebellion of truth and righteousness, which have long been groaning under the tyrannical custom. It is a revolt against the dominion of the animal appetites of the people; it is treason against the sovereignty of a degrading vice. The people are resolved to cast off the foul usurper, and enforce moral rectitude in its stead. May they never ground their arms until success has crowned their efforts." Yours respectfully, EDWARD C. DELEVAN.

WASHINGTON CITY.—A correspondent of the New Haven Record writes from Washington as follows:

"In respect to religion and social morals, this city has long been in a condition most painful to the American Christian. Pennsylvania Avenue is crowded with grog shops, lottery offices and gambling houses. There are a large number of free negroes in the city, and they constitute a portion of the population of which the citizens make abundant complaint. As many as a thousand of them, in the opinion of the mayor, obtain a living by petty thefts.—The city is in debt to the amount of \$850,000, and while they raise \$50,000 by direct taxation, they receive about \$20,000 from licenses.—The city receives for licenses to sell all kinds and quantities of spirituous liquors \$60,—for keeping a billiard table \$100,—for vending lottery tickets \$300, while these causes unquestionably produce a large amount of crime and wretchedness. Washington enjoys the ministry of many faithful servants of God, and contains many intelligent praying Christians.—The same writer adds the following pleasing intelligence.

"There are between fifty and sixty profes-

sors of religion in the House; twenty or thirty of whom are wont to meet on Saturday evening for prayer."

BOSTON RECORDER.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1840.

ADVANCE OF THE RUSSIANS INTO CENTRAL ASIA.

The Russian empire according to the statement of an historian in 1829, extends over three hundred and sixty-eight thousand square miles; a hundred thousand miles in Europe; more than two hundred and forty-three thousand in Asia, and the remainder in America. This empire comprehends one half of Europe and one third of Asia; it forms a ninth part of the habitable globe. Its European division is peopled by fifty-eight millions of inhabitants; its Asiatic by two millions; (since much increased); its American by fifty thousand. The total number, (sixty millions of souls,) does not give more than about one hundred and sixty-one persons to a square mile. The Russian territory is supposed to be capable of supporting one hundred and fifty millions of human beings. The empire is contiguous to China, Persia, Turkey, Germany and the Polar Sea. Another writer estimates the population to have been in 1689, at the time of the accession of Peter I. 15,000,000; in 1762, at the death of Catherine II. 36,000,000; and in 1825, at the death of Alexander, 58,000,000. The total acquisitions of Russia, during 64 years, have equalled her whole European empire before that time. The Russian boundary has advanced in that period, 1000 miles towards Teheran the capital of Persia.

In 1785, Russia took possession of Little Tartary, thus obtaining the key to the Ottoman empire. The foreign relations of Russia with China have remained unaltered, since the treaty of eternal amity concluded between the two countries in 1727. According to the peace of Gubaitan ratified Sept. 15, 1814, Russia received from Persia, besides the territory along the Caspian, and the exclusive navigation of that sea with ships of war, the right of trade in Persia, in consideration of paying a duty of five per cent., and engaged to support that prince, whom the reigning sovereign should designate as his successor, and not suffer any interference of a foreign power in the internal affairs of Persia. About the year 1823, the Persian monarch appointed his son, Abbas Meerza, as his successor. At this time the settling of new boundaries caused fresh disputes. The warlike Abbas thought the moment propitious for attacking Russia. In August 1826, he marched over the frontier, and summoned the Moslem subjects of Russia to arms. Two battles were fought Sept. 14, and 25; the Persians were routed and the Russian territory was freed from the Persians. The Russian general passed the Amox, took the strongest fortresses, and compelled the Shah to sue for peace. By the treaty of Nov. 5, 1827, Persia ceded large and very valuable tracts of land to Russia, paid the expenses of the war and the losses occasioned by the invasion.

In the year 1829, large acquisitions were made by the Russians from the Turks in the ancient Armenia, the Russians taking possession on the third of July, of Erzerum, the centre of the Turkish power in Asia.

The Russians have been less successful in their efforts to subdue the wild mountaineers of the Caucasus. Their country, Circassia, extends on the north of the Caucasus, from the Black sea to the Caspian. It is divided into eight districts, contains 31,783 square miles, and a population of more than half a million. The inhabitants are strong, courageous, and extremely expert in the use of the sabre. The Circassians have caused the Russians more trouble than all the other enemies whom they have encountered in combat in Asia. At various times, since 1813, the Russians have been attempting to dislodge these fierce tribes. Great numbers of the invading armies have perished or been cut in pieces among the mountains and ravines of this Switzerland of Asia. The latest accounts continue to represent the Russians as unsuccessful. The efforts of the Circassians it seems, are directed by some English and French adventurers.

The Russians have been for some time, in possession of the northern and western shores of the Caspian. On the eastern shore of that sea is the Persian province of Astrabad, or Asterabad, the ancient Hyrcania. It extends to the East, as far as the 58th degree of longitude. The city of Astrabad, the capital of the province, is situated on a bay of the Caspian. A great part of the royal treasures of Persia have been deposited in this place. Near the city, the Russians are now concentrating their forces, either to watch the movements of the British in Cabool, or for the purpose of taking possession of Khiva.

Khiva is a region formed by the great river Oxus before it falls in the Aral sea. The western coast of the Aral is eighty miles from the eastern coast of the Caspian. Khiva lies about 200 miles northwest of the city of Bokhara. The inhabited part is 200 miles from north to south, and 100 from east to west. It is a fertile principality, surrounded on all sides by the desert. In 1819, the Russians made an unsuccessful attempt to open a road between the Caspian and Khiva. The affairs of this province have excited considerable attention in the Russian cabinet for many years. In the time of Peter the Great, a Russian Prince, who was sent with a party in search of the gold dust which was supposed to be on the banks of the Oxus, was killed, and his skin made into a drum by the Tartars. Some hundreds of Russians are now in a state of abject slavery in Khiva. There is great hostility to Russia in the minds of the people, and it would be dangerous to appear in the character of a Russian in the country. Besides, Russia would not be at all displeased to gain possession of the Aral sea, and of the mouth of the Oxus, and thus find a road open to the fertile countries south, even to the borders of Tibet and China.

Has Russia ulterior designs in these conquests? Has she any serious eye upon India? What is the degree of probability that the Russians and the British will try their strength in the plains of Central Asia? To these inquiries, answers diametrically opposite are given. It is maintained by one portion of the press and of the political community in Great Britain, that there is no danger of an open collision between Russia and England, that the Indo-British empire is safe from any attacks of the great northern autocrat, and that it will turn out to be a war of words, a new struggle of diplomatists. The reasons on which they ground their opinion are substantially the following:

1. Russia cannot be supposed to be really hostile to England. The two countries acted together against the usurpations of republican France. In the arrangements which followed the pacifications of Europe, the interests of Russia were rather promoted than thwarted by England. When Russia inflicted a terrible vengeance on the unhappy Poles, England was a passive spectator. There is at bottom a mutual esteem between the inhabitants of the two countries, which has not been poisoned by proximity and rivalry.

2. That Russia should be constantly engaged in petty hostilities with her refractory and predatory neighbors in Asia, may well be expected. But these attempts ought not to be ascribed altogether to a desire for political aggrandizement. One of the inseparable evils of a large territory and of an extensive frontier, without geographical limits, is the constant tendency to augmentation. In order to defend what is already gained, new conquests must be secured. Russia may with as good a title of right, chastise the mountaineers of the Caucasus, and for their resistance reduce them to subjection, as England may punish and subdue the native, independent people of Hindoostan.

3. The Russian empire is already large enough. Those who imagine that Nicholas contemplates the acquisition and the incorporation with his vast territories of such a country as India, must believe him to be insane. It is morally impossible that, if such an empire could be put together, it could subsist for a year. If it did not fall in pieces by its own weight, the jealousy of other States would provoke a crusade against it. There is now some homogeneity in the Russian empire, which would be lost with the acquisition of India.

4. If Russia should seriously undertake the subjugation of India, it would be an enterprise beset with perils and difficulties, and would be followed with immense sacrifices. The climate of the countries, through which an invading army must march, the want of supplies, the mode of warfare practised by the inhabitants living on mountains and along narrow defiles, to say nothing of the opposition which would be made by disciplined British armies, would throw every species of impediment in the way of an invading force, which would be all but insuperable.

HOME MISSIONS.

[Notices from the "Home Missionary for April." IOWA.]

It is supposed that the population of this Territory has more than doubled since its organization in 1838, and now amounts to 50,000.

Importance of early effort. Whenever a good congregation can be formed, the order of the Sabbath maintained, Sabbath schools established, and the majority of the people brought under a correct influence, great good is done, both directly and indirectly. Such a congregation becomes like some lone tree on the prairies, the object of universal observation, and contributes to form the character of other infant communities.

Rev. A. Wright has gathered and organized a church in Mexico, consisting of five families. They were before as sheep having no shepherd. Their neighborhood 16 miles west of Paris, are six Presbyterian families, among whom a church will soon be organized under favorable auspices, though prospects heretofore have been dark and gloomy.

WISCONSIN.

Messrs. Hale and Kent organized a church of 12 members a few months since at Platteville, which enjoys many facilities for becoming a flourishing inland town, 16 or 18 miles from the Mississippi. A mile square contains 400 souls. The Methodists have a convenient meeting-house, with basement rooms, in which an academy with 130 pupils is taught by a graduate of Jacksonville College, who is also an elder of the infant Presbyterian church.

ILLINOIS.

At Belleville, the congregation under Rev. Mr. Lippincott have put up a neat little meeting-house. A Sabbath school is commenced and well attended—also a Bible class, and regular prayer meetings. Sabbath congregations are increasing, and the utmost harmony is maintained between the Presbyterians and Baptists.

Columbus, Rev. W. Nichols states that in his church there is unusual solemnity, and increased attendance on meetings. Some sinners are awakened. In several churches in the neighborhood there are precious revivals. Mr. N. is abundant in labors at home and abroad. Still he is pressed for the means of subsistence.

INDIANA.

A missionary writes, that "Piety is at a low ebb all around. The religion of this region is, to a great extent a fulfil one." This is the result of "big meetings"—protracted meetings. Pecuniary embarrassments too have a very unfavorable influence, diverting the minds of many from religion to their temporal necessities.

OHIO.

Difficulties.—"We are much troubled," says a missionary, "with Campbellites, New Lights, and Big meeting folks, whose object seems to be to work on the passions of men—who scatter firebrands, arrows and death, wherever they go." They are of long standing—united in purpose—treat the institutions of the Sabbath and marriage with great indifference—carry with them an influence bordering on infidelity, and cry out against regular ministers as "money-making men," and against their preaching, as "priestcraft," and "deception."

MICHIGAN.

A very new town.—Privations many. Labors arduous. A Sabbath school maintained summer and winter. A Bible class deeply interested and making great improvement. Some conversions. Every family and school within six miles visited by the missionary, where is any prospect of good. The gospel is literally preached from house to house—and souls will be saved.

VIRGINIA.

Four have been added to the church in Marion under Rev. D. H. Palmer; several more have applied for admission, and others are rejoicing in hope, who will soon enrol themselves among God's people. 18 months ago this church was almost extinct. It has now about 60 members. More than usual attention to religion is manifested throughout the county, (Smith Co.)

Destitution. The four adjacent counties of Tazewell, Russell, Scott and Grayson, are without a Presbyterian ministry.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At Salem, the general cry of the church is "O Lord, revive thy work." A deep and solemn interest pervades the congregation when the word is preached, and deep interest is felt by the people.

NEW YORK.

The German congregation in the city has manifested an increasing interest in religion during the past year, and for some months God's word has been signally blessed, and the number of attendants at the church, and at prayer-meetings greatly increased. Many have been convinced of sin, and many have been brought from death to life. This congregation asks no further aid from the Society, and tenders the warmest thanks for past assistance.

Syracuse.—About 40 German families reside here—and missionary labors were commenced among them about fifteen months ago. Religion was then at a low ebb—as they had for several years had no instruction in their own language, and ill understood English. About 50 families now belong to the congregation, and a growing interest is felt in religious things. Eight hopeful conversions have occurred, and some of the young people are inquiring. Amount of collections acknowledged by the Parent

Society, \$2,694 81. Philadelphia Agency \$851 60. Central Agency, at Ulica \$397 72. Western Agency at Geneva \$614 78.

Missionaries re-appointed 12. New appointments 10.

KINDNESS TO MINISTERS.

Every faithful minister of the gospel must necessarily have upon him the burden of many anxieties and cares. These arise chiefly from his solicitude for the spiritual and eternal welfare of his people. It is love for them that led him to assume the heavy responsibilities of the pastoral office; and it is love for them that leads him cheerfully to bear them. Every thing relating to their welfare, temporal and spiritual, deeply interests him. The law of kindness is on his lips, and the grand ruling principle in his heart.

This kindness should be returned. It is a precious cordial to the pastor's burdened heart to ascertain that those for whom his most anxious and painful labors are expended, entertain an affectionate regard for him. Though the great Apostle to the Gentiles less needed such consolations than his weaker brethren in our days, yet he makes careful mention of them as they occurred, and records the refreshment they gave him troubled spirit. We are not anxious about the particular mode in which it shall be expressed. We aim at having the deep emotion exist, satisfied that it will find expression in some form.

We were pleased with the following specimen of a parishioner's affectionate regard for his pastor, which we find in a London paper. The pastor received it just as he was about to go into the country to attend certain religious anniversaries.

"My dear and beloved friend,—Whilst you read this you will be on your journey, and though I cannot accompany you in person, remember, I am with you in spirit, and these are my earnest wishes, and my warmest desires, that God, in his infinite mercy, may protect you from all kinds of evil; that you may reach your destined spot in entire safety; that the time you are from us may be rightly and profitably employed; that if you are permitted to preach, the word may be accompanied with power, that many—many may have reason to bless and praise God in deliver and through eternity, that you were sent to deliver the glorious tidings of the gospel, which has made them wise unto salvation.

"But now, my dearest friend, my wishes are not ended; oh, no! there is one more, that you may be brought back, in the enjoyment of spiritual and temporal health, to the people God has given you; and to cheer the heart of one who, I imagine, thinks as you do, wishes as you do, but does not hope so brightly as you do; but this I trust—we both are resting on the same Almighty power—oh! how happy, if we are implicitly building on the Rock of Ages, then whether God shall ever permit you, and those whom the ties of friendship and grace have united, to meet again on this earth or not, all will be well. Oh, my dear friend, let us be more earnest and solicitous of being entirely resigned to the will of our heavenly Father; that, and that alone, will cause a calm to the restless mind, when, like the troubled ocean, it is tossed about with the cares and troubles of this evil world. May God bless and keep you; into his hands we must commit each other, well knowing that

"Though rough and thorny be the road,
It leads us home as sure as God;
Then may we count our troubles small,
For He will win the victory at last."

"If permitted to enter those realms of bliss, oh, how happy that meeting where friends shall meet to part no more, and where sorrow and sighing are not known. May that be our portion, is the frequent and earnest prayer of yours affectionately."

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

STATE LUNATIC HOSPITAL. Seventh Annual Report of the Trustees, Dec. 1839. Boston: Dutton & Wentworth. pp. 102, 8vo.

Beside the report of the Trustees, this pamphlet contains the Report of the Treasurer, A. D. Foster, Esq., and of the Superintendent, Dr. S. B. Woodward—to whose politeness we are indebted for the highly interesting document.

We can do no more than present to our readers a few of the many interesting facts contained in the Superintendent's report, illustrative of the benefits flowing from this most philanthropic institution, to the unfortunate victims of insanity.

Since the hospital was opened seven years ago, 1,034 patients have been admitted; 805 have been discharged. Of this last number 424 have been recovered; 75 have died; and 306 have been discharged, not recovered.

From nearly the beginning, the hospital has been full, and the accommodations are insufficient to meet the continual press upon it. Its admirable arrangements and accommodations render it a most desirable residence for the insane.

In the course of the past year, there have been in the hospital 397 patients—males 195, females 202. At the close of last year, there remained 218 patients. There have been admitted in the course of this year 179. At the close of the year, Dec. 1, the number of patients, was 229.

For want of suitable accommodations, 115 applications made for reception, have been rejected. In no previous year has the number of patients been so large.

The number discharged during the year was 168; of these, 80 were recovered; 29 improved; 7 not improved; 30 harmless and incurable. This is owing however to no epidemic or acute disease, but to an unusual number of imbecile and broken down patients brought in, already affected with fatal disease. Many have thus obtained admission, by misrepresentation to the courts, that friends and keepers of almshouses might avoid the trouble of taking care of them.

Of the existing causes of insanity, intemperance still stands at the head of the list, it having produced 171 cases, the cause of which is known, and probably a large share of those, the cause of which is not known. The form of the disease here treated, is not delirium tremens, but a permanent mania—more difficult to cure. The story of intemperance is but half told by this fact; it is not only the cause of disease, but emphatically, the cause of causes. Of 171 cases of intemperance, 151 were males and 20 females.

Of 418 cases of insanity of one year's standing and under, 379 have recovered; 48 have failed to recover; 34 remain in the hospital, and 17 have died. Of 161 cases between one and two years standing, 96 have recovered, or are curable; 64 have failed to recover or have died.

Of 411 cases, over two years, only 72 have recovered.

179 of the patients have done more or less labor in the different departments of industry the past year. 40 of these have labored on the land and in the garden. Many of them do the work, as well as other men of the same experience.

The most perfect order and regularity are maintained throughout the whole institution. The inmates all rise at 4-2 o'clock in the summer, and 1-4 before 6 o'clock in winter, and for half the year, breakfast is taken by candle light. The meals are taken in 12 dining rooms, and the tables are set and furnished as for persons of sound mind.

But of the details of the management of the whole concern we cannot make a satisfactory abstract. The whole report must be read, and studied, by those who are curious to know how the insane mind may be

controlled. It must be confessed, that the emotions of our own minds, while looking carefully through the whole of these reports, have been such as we have no power to describe. Mingled gratitude to heaven, admiration of the Superintendent's skill, and sympathy with the "unfortunates" who enjoy such provisions of God's goodness and man's philanthropy—have absorbed us quite.

THE PERKINS INSTITUTION, and Massachusetts Asylum for the Blind. Eighth Annual Report. 1840. pp. 32, 8vo.

The inmates of the Institution have been in excellent health, and have made progress in their studies, and skill in mechanical labors, during the past year. The working department has continued steadily in operation, and received additional patronage from the public.

In the printing department, not much has been done. A selection from Viri Romae, and an edition of Pierce's Geometry have been issued. The same department is better supported however by some other similar institutions. The presses and apparatus for printing are in good order, and the stock of various kinds of type is full.

The Institution has exchanged its estate in Pearl street for the spacious and beautifully located edifice, known as the Mount Washington House, South Boston. The exchange was made on even terms. This location is considered to be more salubrious than the former, having unobstructed streets, open grounds, and facilities for sea bathing in the neighborhood. The building is much more spacious and convenient than the former, and will accommodate a much greater number of pupils. It has an enclosure of 55,000 feet, on which the house is situated, beside a lot of 20,000 feet on the opposite side of the street passing it. Entirely separate arrangements for each sex are now made, under the same roof. The original cost of this building was \$110,000. The situation is a delightful one in summer; and in winter the house is warmed by furnaces constructed on scientific principles. The boys have a gymnasium, with the usual fixtures for gymnastic exercises, which they go through twice every day in winter. In summer and autumn they bathe daily in the sea.

Each pupil, with a few exceptions, devotes a part of each day, to study, and music, and manual labor. An organ worth \$3,000 has been presented to the Institution by Mr. George Lee. It is not the design to teach more than the common school branches of education; but during the past year, Algebra and Geometry have been studied by some, and three boys have made considerable progress in Latin and Greek. The boys have formed a Lyceum, which meets regularly every week, where they discuss questions, with much interest and considerable ingenuity. A very particular and interesting account is given of Laura Bridgman, who is not only blind, but deaf and dumb.

The whole report is highly satisfactory, and commends the cause of the Institution to the respect and love of all who delight in every monument of the welfare or indirect influences of Christianity or the discord of man.

WESTERN RAIL ROAD CORPORATION. Proceedings of the Annual Meeting held at Abington, in the City of Boston, March 12, 1840, including the Report of the Committee of Investigation, appointed by the Stockholders. pp. 56, 8vo. Boston: Dutton & Wentworth.

A Committee of thirteen gentlemen was appointed by the stockholders, Feb. 12, 1840, to examine the treasurer's accounts; to investigate the affairs of the corporation; to make any suggestions they might deem useful; to select candidates for directors, and to report at an adjourned meeting, March 12th. Their report, is substantially, that they find all the affairs of the corporation in the best order—that the directors and all the officers have discharged their respective duties with great skill, and entire fidelity—that the system early adopted by the directors for the construction of the road, was a judicious one, well adapted to secure usefulness and durability of the work, united to great economy in its construction. The principal suggestion they make in reference to the future management of the concern, relates to the reduction of the fare of passengers and freight. They urge with great force and clearness—or rather, they demonstrate fully, that a reduction of the rates of fare one fourth, or one third, or one half, would augment the receipts of the corporation, as well as accommodate the public. So far as the experiment has been made on the Salem and Worcester rail roads, and the Belknap rail road, it settles the question perfectly, that the stockholders as well as the public at large, will be benefited by establishing low fares—in consequence of the increased amount of travel. It is to be hoped that the unanimous acceptance of the report by the stockholders, may be regarded as a pledge that the directors shall be authorized to carry out the principles it advocates.

CHRISTIAN HOPE. A Sermon preached in Berlin, Aug. 13, 1839, at the Funeral of Mrs. Ann H. Park. By Robert Carter, Pastor of the Evangelical Church in Berlin, Portland; 1840. pp. 20.

That "the righteous hath hope in death." (Prov. 14: 32) is a fact which cannot be too clearly explained, nor too carefully guarded against misapprehension. The character of the righteous man as delineated by the Spirit of truth—the objects of his hope, as they are defined by the same Spirit, and the grounds on which his hopes rest, are topics therefore, to be treated with great propriety, in the treatment of the text. Many, beside the righteous man, have hope, both in life and in death—a hope that will prove like the spider's web, when God taketh away the soul. To expose false hopes, and define those that will endure the day of trial—to warn the sinner of his danger, and urge his flight from refuges of lies, is certainly among the most pressing as well as arduous duties of the minister of God. Let him fail to detect hypocrisy, and tear away the flimsy veil by which the sinner conceals his true character from his own eyes, and though he may preach like an angel on other subjects, he will hardly escape the sad catastrophe of those, whose skirts are stained with the blood of souls.

OBSTACLES TO THE SUCCESS OF THE GOSPEL. A Sermon preached at the Dedication of the Meeting-house, erected by the First Religious Society in North Andover, Nov. 21, 1839. By Wm. P. Braman, Pastor of the Church. pp. 50, 8vo. Salem: Lee & Jewett.

From the words, "But hith in due times manifested his word through preaching." (Titus, 1: 3.) Mr. B. discusses 1. the wisdom manifested in the institution of preaching. 2. The obstacles to its success, particularly in our own country. 3. Our obligations to support it.

It is rare to meet with so great an amount of good sense, conveyed in language so plain and direct, as that which occupies these fifty pages—particularly on a subject that has engaged so many pens, from age to age. It is refreshing to meet with a new train of thought on an old subject, and to mark the different aspects in which independent minds contemplate the same great truths. It would be a pleasant occupation to us, to furnish a full abstract of so valuable

a discourse were time at command, and had we the requisite space at disposal. But we commend it confidently to the perusal of all into whose way it falls, as an uncommonly happy combination of things and old, brought forth from the treasures of truth. Possibly, some extracts may be inserted in our columns, hereafter, which will give our readers a fair specimen of the whole.

THE SOUL IN BONDS. pp. 8. For the Ladies Anti-Slavery Fair, Lowell, Mass.

A short, but impressive and solemn appeal, to the hallowed sensibilities of the Christian, in behalf of the injured being, who bearing God's image, and possessing all the immortal powers of man, is yet degraded by the crushing weight of slavery to the condition of a mere animal, and the miseries of ignorance and superstition. If there be any, professing the Christian gospel, who look complacently on the legal injustice of holding man in bondage, there, at some other tract of the same character, ought to be put on their hands, and prayerfully read. But we have yet to learn that there are such non-Scriptural Christians north of the Potomac.

DEDICATION SERMON. A Sermon delivered at the Presbyterian Congregation of Tebbin, N. Y., at the Dedication of their New House of Worship, Jan. 19, 1840. By John W. Yeomans, Pastor of the Church. pp. 26, 8vo.

The subject of this discourse, discussed with the ability for which the author is distinguished, is drawn from Psalm 135: 4. It is, the blessedness of them, whom God chooseth—and causeth to approach him—that he may dwell in his courts—and be sanctified with the goodness of his house. The discourse is a textual one, and its treatment expository—but free and unconstrained as far as the case would admit. The indications of a clear and discerning mind, and a sound evangelical spirit, are such as might be expected from a man of New England vivacity enfolded in the old school Presbyterian church.

THE MUSICAL MAGAZINE. Conducted by Theodore Hook. No. 32. pp. 16, 8vo. Published once to two weeks, price \$3. Boston: G. Reed, 17 Tremont Row.

We were not aware of the existence of this Magazine, till we met a notice of it in the Musical Week, week or two since. Its subscription list is somewhat probably owing rather to its high price than its quality of merit. The leading article of the present No. relates to the "BOSTON ACADEMY OF MUSIC," stating their plans, labors, and successes. Few of our readers probably are aware of the influence (as we trust) going abroad from this Academy over the length and breadth of the land.

PEBBLES FROM CANTALIA. By Isaac Fitzgerald, Shepherd, Boston; Whipple and Daniels, Cornhill. 1840.

We confess to a disinclination for modern poetry. To say nothing of the numerous class of aspirants to poetical fame who offend against metre, rhyme, sense, and even grammar, the majority of verse-writers now-a-days seem to think that words are in first thing, the second thing and the third thing, necessary to constitute a good poet. Far from understanding that poetry requires at least as much meaning as sense as prose, and that, in fact, a genuine poet is also a true philosopher, they appear to imagine that a single pretty phrase is all that makes poetry

temperature, sensation in a family, the progress of the life which it embodies are drawn, are, in part, the result of the author's personal observation, and in part, of the observations which have been published on the subject. The title is agreeable to the spirit of the age, and the names are strikingly chosen to give his house, room, and spiritual success, in a quite convincing way. By Rev. Cyrus Mann—pp. 28. Price 50 cents. C. C. DEAN, Agent.

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